

~~TOP SECRET~~
OXCART/TRINE

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: AUG 2007

EO 12958 3.3(b) (1)>25Yrs
EO 12958 6.2(c)

BYE 8910-68
Copy 5 of 11

15 May 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Critique for OXCART Mission Number BX6858

1. Mission critique was conducted in the OSA Control Center at 1500 hours, 10 May 1968.

2. Mission Data:

- a. Mission Number: BX6858
- b. Date Flown: 6 May 1968
- c. Area of Operation: North Korea
- d. Mission Success: Successful
- e. Pilot's Name: Layton
- f. Aircraft Number: 127
- g. Primary or Spare Flown: Primary
- h. Takeoff Time - Planned: 0100Z
Actual: 0100Z
- i. Landing Time - Planned: 0428Z
Actual: 0430Z
- j. Time Enroute - Planned: 3+28
Actual: 3+30
- k. Departure Base: Kadena AB
- l. Landing Base: Kadena AB
- m. Equipment:

(1) Primary: TYPE I, BW, PIN PEG, BLUE DOG II, MAD MOTH, SYSTEM VI.

(2) Spare: Same as primary.

Job # 69B00404/R
Box #1 Folder #77

HANDLE VIA BYEMAN
COMINT CONTROL
CHANNELS JOINTLY

OXCART/TRINE

~~TOP SECRET~~

BYE 8910-68
Page 2

3. Operations:

- a. Mission Generation & Operational Support: Satisfactory
- b. Plans: Route (Actual vs. Planned): Satisfactory
 - (1) Total INS Nav Time: 4+06 Hours
 - (2) INS Terminal Error: 9.7 Nautical Miles
 - (3) INS Spec. Error: 8.9 Nautical Miles
- c. Tactics (Planned vs. Actual): As briefed.

4. Weather:

- a. Forecast vs. Actual: Worse than briefed.
- b. Observed Cloud Condition:
 - (1) Pilot reported CAT I conditions on both passes with heavy haze over entire area.
 - (2) Photography: [] reported 20% cloud on first pass and 30% on second pass. Overall degradation was 50% due to clouds and haze.
- c. Comments: Weather was worse than briefed due to haze condition which may have been intensified by thin cirrus clouds.

5. Materiel:

- a. Aircraft General: Satisfactory
 - (1) Comments: Left windshield glazed inflight. Windshield has been replaced. During first B.I.T., RUSTRAC, SYSTEM VI, and BIRDWATCHER indicated a failure of the MAD MOTH system. Subsequent tests were normal. System is being investigated.

HANDLE VIA BYEMAN
COMINT CONTROL
CHANNELS JOINTLY

OXCART/TRINE
~~TOP SECRET~~

BYE 8910-68
Page 3

b. Aircraft Systems: Satisfactory

(1) Comments: INS had excessive terminal error. System has been replaced.

(2) Resolution: Poor on photography effected by atmospherics. Estimated 18 to 20 inch resolution on non-effected photos.

(3) Camera Operation: Normal. SC & DM indicated camera in caged position during second pass over denied. Indication was false and wiring between camera and SC & DM recorder is being investigated to determine signal source.

6. Intelligence:

a. Target Coverage:

- (1) 66 of 77 programmed targets covered.
- (2) 3 SSM targets covered.
- (3) 68 of 125 COMIREX targets covered.
- (4) 15 SAM sites, 3 occupied, 1 unoccupied, 11 ID only.
- (5) 30 bonus targets.

(6) Comments: The mission obtained poor to fair quality photography of the southern two-fifths of North Korea. Scattered clouds and haze affected approximately 50% of the photography.

c. Significant Findings: None

d. EWS Activation: None

HANDLE VIA BYEMAN
COMINT CONTROL
CHANNELS JOINTLY

BYE 8910-68
Page 4

e. Take Movement:

- (1) Photography: Satisfactory
- (2) ELINT: Satisfactory
- (3) Comments: The original negative was delayed at Andrews AFB in the movement to [] due to maintenance on the Headquarters C-118. The film was rescheduled on a commerical flight and delivered to [] 8 May 1968 at 2250Z.

7. Communications:

- a. Message Traffic: Satisfactory
- b. BIRDWATCHER: Satisfactory
- c. UHF/HF Commo: Satisfactory

8. Significant Actions Taken:

Confidence flight accomplished on aircraft 127, 15 May 1968, to verify INS, camera caging and B.I.T. systems operation. All systems operated normally except SC&DM tape - continued to reflect a false camera caged condition. Camera and SC&DM systems are being investigated to determine signal source.

9. Outstanding Actions Required:

[]

- b. Establish procedure whereby DTFc may request a repeat EWS system B.I.T. if BIRDWATCHER indications are not normal. (OXC Operations/Communications).

HANDLE VIA BYEMAN
COMINT CONTROL
CHANNELS JOINTLY

~~TOP SECRET~~
OXCART/TRINE

BYE 8910-68
Page 5



Chief, OXCART Division, OSA

OXC/O/OSA/

Distribution:

- #1 - D/SA
- #2 - D/O/OSA
- #3 - D/M/OSA
- #4 - D/R&D/OSA
- #5 - OXC/O/OSA
- #6 - Intel/O/OSA
- #7 - Wea/O/OSA
- #8 - Commo/O/OSA
- #9 - ADP/O/OSA
- #10-RB/OSA
- #11-Chrono

HANDLE VIA BYEMAN
COMINT CONTROL
CHANNELS JOINTLY

OXCART/TRINE
~~TOP SECRET~~